

106,1002 - INV - Gibson

September 2, 1926.

Kenneth Lanning, Esq.,  
Trenton, N.J.

Dear Ken:

Several matters have arisen in the Hall-Mills case necessitating action in other cities, one of these necessitates a search of certain records at Trenton. I naturally thought you might be in a position to help me in this connection.

The situation is this: Jane Gibson, the State's principal witness, according to information in my possession, was born as Mary Eisleiter. On the witness stand in the preliminary hearing before Judge Cleary at Somerville, she testified that she was born in Kentucky and that her maiden name was Leitner. Notwithstanding this, I want to check up on a report that she was born in Hoboken. The records in that city are not very accurate and I should appreciate your advising me if you can consult the birth records at Trenton under the name of Mary Leitner or Eisleiter on or about December 6th 1875. This date may not be accurate and I would suggest your searching from about 1870 to 1878. If you obtain any record of her birth, could you secure a certified copy? Jane Gibson or Mary Leitner or Eisleiter is known to have married one Fred Kesserling about 1891 who divorced her on the ground of adultery December 31st, 1897, the decree being granted in the Court of Chancery of New Jersey and being filed January 4, 1898. I am also desirous of obtaining a certified copy of her marriage, <sup>copy it</sup> if such is obtainable at Trenton.

I regret that I have not the exact date, although I am informed that the marriage took place about 1891 in Paterson before Justice of the Peace White. We have been unable to turn up any record in Paterson.

If you are able to do these things, I should appreciate your letting me have an early report, and also sending me a statement. If I am ever in the vicinity of Trenton I shall certainly make it a point to drop in to see you and I suggest that you do likewise if you are in the vicinity of New York.

Sincerely,